



HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY

EMILY MENTZER/Itemizer-Observer

Children show off their patriotism during the children's parade in Monmouth on Monday morning.

Dallas, Falls City, Independence and Monmouth all got in on the fun as Polk County celebrated America's Birthday. For more photos from all of the county's celebrations, visit www.polkio.com.



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The Monmouth-Independence Rotary Grand Parade featured a number of unique floats, including Central Performing Arts.



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

Pyrotechnician Kent Rasmussen, left, explains when to light fuses to the Dallas crew on Monday.



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The classic car show in Monmouth featured a large display of beautiful cars to look at.

Rotary Grand Parade Results for 2016

The following entries received awards in the 2016 Rotary Grand Parade.

- **Most Patriotic:** Love Reins Ranch.
- **Best Float:** first place, Polk County Master Gardeners; second, Petals and Vines; third, Paul Evans.
- **Best Band:** first place, Central High School Pep Band; second, Monmouth Taiko.
- **Youth Entry:** first place, Boy Scout

Troop 38; second, Focus Pocus 4-H Club; third, CYS Softball.

- **Best Modern Vehicle:** first place, Annette Udey (2005 Honda convertible); second, Gary Fuszek (1967 Corvette).
- **Best Antique Vehicle:** first place, Mike Henrick (1915 Ford); second, Dave and Arty Thiel (1937 Chevrolet); third, Raymond Udey (1938 Plymouth).
- **Best Special Interest Cars:** first place, Gary Alexander; second, Richards family; third, Mobile FX.
- **Best Farm Equipment:** first place,

Paul Evans; second, Daughters of the American Revolution; third, CYS.

- **Best Highway Trucks:** first place, Van Well Timber; second, Walsh Trucking Co.; third, Grossman and Weston Gravel.
- **Best Commercial/Industrial:** first place, Buena Vista Arbor Care; second, Van Well; third, Marr Brothers.
- **Most Effort in Preparation:** first place, Petals and Vines; second, Polk County Master Gardeners; third, Monmouth Taikwando.
- **Best Youth Equestrian:** first place, Flag Horse; second, Storybrook Minis.



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Elise Nale, 1, plays with chalk at Main Street Park on Saturday.



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

Xzavier Ceja, 3, plays on a slide with cotton candy in Falls City on Saturday.